

19. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing mycobacterial diseases in animals or humans caused by mycobacteria containing the polynucleotide of Seq.ID.No: 3 or 4, which method comprises vaccinating or treating an animal or human with an effective amount of a polynucleotide according to claim 4 [claims 4 to 7], a vector according to claim 9 or a polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide which comprises a sequence selected from the sequences of Seq.ID.No: 31, 33, 35, 37 and 39 or a polypeptide substantially homologous thereto.

20. (Amended) A method according to claim 18 [claims 18 or 19] for increasing the in vivo susceptibility of mycobacteria to antimicrobial drugs.

21. (Amended) A normally pathogenic mycobacterium, whose pathogenicity is mediated in all or in part by the presence or the expression of a polypeptide as defined in [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1 or a polypeptide which comprises a sequence selected from the sequences of Seq.ID.No: 31, 33, 35, 37 and 39 or a polypeptide substantially homologous thereto, which mycobacterium harbours an attenuating mutation in a gene encoding one of the said polypeptides.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to reduce the filing fees and delete improper multiple dependencies.

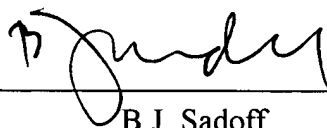
The specification has been amended to include a Sequence Listing, a copy of which was filed in the parent Application No.09/091,538. The attached paper copy of the Sequence Listing is the same as the paper and computer readable copies of the Sequence Listing submitted in Application No. 09/091,538. The Office is requested to use the computer readable form of the Sequence Listing in the parent Application No. 09/091,538, in the present application. A separate Request to this effect is attached. No new matter has been added.

An early and favorable Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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